

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SINGAP 04287 140934Z

13
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ONY-00 /010 W
----- 100564
P 140830Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6171

S E C R E T SINGAPORE 4287

FOR EA ONLY

FOR AMBASSADOR HOLDRIDGE FROM CHARGE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, SN
SUBJECT: CLEARANCE REQUEST FOR FIRST MAC FLIGHT TO DIEGO GARCIA

REF: 22AF TRAVIS AFB CAL. DTG 140015Z SEP. 76 (STATE NOT ON
DISTRIBUTION)

1. USDAO RECEIVED REF INSTRUCTION FROM 22AF TRAVIS AIR FORCE
BASE ON SEPTEMBER 14 REQUESTING IT OBTAIN DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE
FROM GOS FOR C-141 FLIGHT ON SEPTEMBER 15 FROM CLARK AFB TO TENGAH
TO DIEGO GARCIA. MESSAGE STATED SHORT NOTICE DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE
APPROVED BY HQ USAF, OASD/ISA AND STATE DEPARTMENT. NO
REASONS WERE CITED FOR SHORT NOTICE.

2. COMMENT: I THINK IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT OUR FIRST REQUEST
TO GOS FOR CLEARANCE OF A MAC SUPPORT FLIGHT TO DIEGO GARCIA
DID NOT COMPLY WITH GOS REQUIREMENT FOR 72 HOURS ADVANCE
NOTICE. SINCE MESSAGE STATED STATE AND OASD/ISA HAD AGREED
TO HAVING CLEARANCE REQUESTED ON SHORT NOTICE, EMBASSY SUBMITTED
REQUEST TO MFA. DATT IS FAIRLY CONFIDENT THAT GOS WILL APPROVE
REQUEST SINCE MFA HAS BEEN COOPERATIVE IN PAST WHEN WE HAVE
REQUESTED CLEARANCE ON SHORT NOTICE FOR OTHER FLIGHTS.
HOWEVER, IF WE INTEND TO EXPAND THE NUMBER OF OUR MAC SUPPORT
FLIGHTS THROUGH SINGAPORE TO DIEGO GARCIA AND TO STAGE P-3
FLIGHTS THROUGH HERE AT A LATER DATE, WE SHOULD MAKE EVERY
EFFORT TO COMPLY METICULOUSLY WITH GOS DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE

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REQUIREMENTS.

3. YOU MAY WISH TO POINT THIS OUT TO APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS IN STATE AND DEFENSE IN THE COURSE OF YOUR CONSULTATIONS AND URGE THAT THE 72 HOUR REQUIREMENT BE ADHERED TO UNLESS THERE IS AN EXCEPTIONALLY STRONG REASON FOR SEEKING AN EXCEPTION.

4. INCIDENTALLY, EA/IMS MAY BE INTERESTED THAT REF MESSAGE INDICATED C-141 WOULD OVERFLY SUMATRA AFTER LEAVING TENGAH RATHER THAN PROCEEDING UP TO THE STRAITS OF MALACCA. USDAO JAKARTA HAS JUST ADVISED THAT OVERFLIGHT OF SUMATRA CAN NOT BE OBTAINED ON SHORT NOTICE.
GRANT

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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